IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE OF BOMBAY

APPELLATE SIDE

CRIMINAL WRIT PETITION NO. 933 of 2007

Dilip S. Coulagi .. Petitioner

versus

Union of India & ors. .. Respondents

...

Mr.Samshet Garud with Ms.Namrata Jayakar Garug i/b Jayakars for the petitioner.

Mr.H.V. Mehta for respondent nos.1 and 2.

Mr.A.R. Patil, APP for respondent no.3.

CORAM : D.G.Karnik and
A.A. Sayed, JJ
(Vacation Court)

DATED : 16th May 2007.

P.C.:

1. Rule. Mr.H.V.Mehta waives service for respondent nos.1 and 2 and Mr.Patil, APP waives service for respondent no.3. By consent, Rule is made returnable forthwith.

2. Heard learned counsel for the parties.

3. By a letter dated 8th August 2006 (Exhibit-G to the petition), respondent no.2 called upon the petitioner to show cause why his passport no. F-8520567 dated 13th June 2006 be not impounded under section 10 of the Passports Act 1967. Petitioner showed cause by sending replies dated 25th September 2006 and 18th December 2006. The grievance of the petitioner is that no decision has been taken by the respondents and his passport is only withheld without any decision.

4. In the circumstances, we are of the view that a direction be issued by the respondent nos.1 and 2 to take a decision on the show cause notice dated 8th August 2006 expeditiously in view of the fact that petitioner wants to travel abroad. We accordingly direct the respondent no.2 to take a decision on the show cause notice dated 8th August 2006 (at Exhibit-G to the petition) within a period of two weeks.

5. Rule is made absolute to the extent indicated above.

(D.G.KARNIK, J)

(A.A. SAYED, J)